

liver of some Strasburg goose in an advanced stage of fatty degeneration, it may be interesting to them to learn something about its previous history. The truffle, although it exists in the northern provinces of France, is little known, save in the southern districts, as an article of common produce. It is found principally in plantations, or in their neighbourhood, and chiefly affects the vicinity of young oaks and firs, growing in a semicircle a few inches below the level of the soil. In the Haute Marne, small dogs (mongrels) are used for finding it; in the Var, a race of lean, fitchless pigs perform the office of truffle-hunters. The education of the dogs consists in hiding underground an old sabot, filled with earth, and containing a bit of truffle and a piece of bacon. The animal is starved until its nose coming to the rescue reveals the buried rasher, and when the shoe is presently scratched up, it is allowed the enjoyment of the bacon for its pains. The dog, eventually confounding the two scents, is reminded by the smell of the truffle of the possibly concomitant eventuality of a dainty morsel, and is consequently prone to adopt a similar course on all future occasions. When well trained, a good truffle-hunter is worth a hundred francs or more. The pig, I understand, is educated much in the same way, with this exception, that an acorn or two is, out of delicacy to the animal's feelings, substituted for the rasher. In Piedmont, a white truffle is found, possessed of a very strong garlicky flavour and odour. It is commonly eaten as a salad, with oil and vinegar, and, when in season, its perfume is perfectly recognizable in the atmosphere of the theatre at Turin.

Paris, November 19th, 1861.

MEDICAL TRIALS.

COURT OF QUEEN'S BENCH, MONDAY, NOV. 18TH.

QUAIL v. HALL.

THIS was an action in which the plaintiff, who is a miner, sought to recover damages from the defendant, who is a surgeon, for unskilful treatment of a dislocated knee, whereby it was alleged the plaintiff had become a cripple for life. At the trial the plaintiff obtained a verdict, with £45 damages, but subsequently the Court granted a rule for a new trial, upon the ground that the verdict was against the evidence.

The cause was tried before Mr. Justice Keating, who now reported to this Court that, considering the very serious consequences of the verdict to the defendant, he did not think the evidence would warrant the verdict.

After the notes had been read,

Lord Chief Justice COCKBURN intimated that under the circumstances there ought to be a new trial, but only upon the payment of costs.

Mr. Serjeant WHEELER and Mr. BAYLISS showed cause against the rule, and trusted the Court would not grant a new trial in this case. There was conflicting evidence, and the case went to the jury with a strong summing-up in favour of the defendant. The jury retired to consider their verdict, and after two or three hours' consideration they found for the plaintiff. They submitted that upon the evidence, the jury had come to a right decision; but at all events, as there was conflicting evidence, it was peculiarly a case for a jury to decide, and their verdict ought not to be disturbed.

Mr. ASPINALL, who appeared in support of the rule, was stopped by the Court.

Lord Chief Justice COCKBURN said the Court thought it better not to express any opinion upon the case as it then stood; but, taking into account the remark of Mr. Justice Keating, who tried the cause, the Court did not think the verdict was entirely satisfactory. There would, therefore, be a new trial, but only upon the payment of the costs by the defendant.—Rule absolute accordingly.

** It will be seen from the above report that Mr. Hall has succeeded in his motion for a new trial. The Lord Chief Justice might well remark, that the Court did not think the verdict was entirely satisfactory.—ED. L.

M. CHASSAGNY, of Lyons, has proposed an ingeniously constructed amygdalotome, resembling Fahrenstock's instrument. The straight fork is replaced by horizontal hooks, which draw the hypertrophied gland into the ring of the guillotine. That it is now and then very difficult to get the tonsil into the ring every operating surgeon knows.

THE PITTARD FUND.

THE following contributions have been received, in addition to those already acknowledged:—

Prescott G. Hewett, Esq., F.R.C.S.	... £5	5	0
Professor Lionel S. Beale, M.B., F.R.S.	... 2	0	0
Henry Johnson, Esq., Crutched-friars	... 10	10	0
Nathaniel Montefiore, Esq., F.R.C.S.	... 3	3	0
Henry E. Norris, Esq., M.R.C.S.	... 5	0	0
H. R. F.	... 2	0	0
H. E. Murrell, Esq., Walbrook	... 1	0	0
Dr. Harvey	... 2	2	0
George C. Steet, Esq., F.R.C.S.	... 5	0	0
T. Spencer Wells, Esq., F.R.C.S.	... 1	1	0

Erratum.—Mr. Henry Smith's subscription, in last week's LANCET, should have been stated as £2 2s. instead of £1 1s.

Medical News.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.—The following gentlemen, having undergone the necessary examinations for the diploma, were admitted Members of the College at a meeting of the Court of Examiners on the 14th inst.:—

Allfrey, Charles Henry, Stamford-hill.
Cooper, Herbert, Bristol.
Davey, John Edwin, Lewes, Sussex.
Dustan, John, Jersey.
Edwards, Morgan John, Newbridge, Glamorganshire.
Fletcher, Henry Studd, Abingdon.
Gale, Henry Stanley, Hampstead.
Harris, Walter, Waterford.
Hicks, John Wale (L.R.C.P.), Hackney.
Lidderdale, John, Osmington, near Weymouth.
Meade, Edward, Middleton, Co. Cork.
Mitnish, Henry William, Calcutta.
Murrell, William Henry Julius, Lewes, Sussex.
Onley, Samuel, Cheltenham.
Ramsbotham, Samuel Henry, Leeds.
Russell, William Smyth, West Indies.
Smith, Henry, Wigan, Lancashire.
Thorne, Thomas Henry, Northampton.
Wadd, Thomas Herbert, Basinghall-street.
Watson, William Tyndale, Tottenham.
Whitall, James William, Chertsey.
Winterbottom, Edwin John, Sloane-street.

The following gentlemen were admitted Members on the 15th inst.:—

Adams, Thomas Rutherford (L.S.A.), Kilkenny.
Daniell, John, Sydney, Australia.
Hoff, George Framingham, Calcutta.
Sheetz, James, Etawah, Bengal Presidency.
Sheppard, William Matthew (L.S.A.), Geelong, Australia.
Troy, John Henry, Clarendon-square.

APOTHECARIES' HALL.—The following gentlemen passed their examination in the science and practice of medicine, and received certificates to practise, on the 14th inst.:—

Adams, Webster, St. Thomas's Hospital.
Bromley, John Bourne, Stonebridge.
Carter, Edward H., Billericay, Essex.
Dyte, David Hyman, London.
Owen, Richard J., Leamington.
Walker, Bernard, Sheffield.

The following gentlemen also on the same day passed their first examination:—

Lindon, John Crump, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Row, William, Guy's Hospital.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.—The following are lists of candidates who passed the respective examinations indicated:—

SECOND B.SC. EXAMINATION, 1861.

First Division.

Dickins, Frederick Victor, private tuition.

Second Division.

Bell, John William, Trinity College, Dublin.
Gibson, Rev. B. W., B.A., King's College.
Leach, John Comyns, University College.
Unwin, William Cawthorne, New College.

SECOND M.B. EXAMINATION, 1861.

First Division.

Atchley, Geo. Frederick, Bristol Med. School and King's.
Bankart, James, Guy's Hospital.
Buszard, Frank, Guy's Hospital.
Dickins, Fred. Victor, Manchester Royal Infirmary.
Fagge, Charles Hilton, Guy's Hospital.
Ferguson, George, St. Bartholomew's Hospital.
Fortescue, George, King's College.
Galton, John Henry, Guy's Hospital.
Gee, Samuel Jones, University College.
Mackenzie, Morell, London Hospital.